GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3079
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
FAKE PURCHASES BY NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY
Manvendra Singh Shri

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of fake purchases by the official of National Physical Laboratory have come to the Notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty officials; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such cases ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b) : A case of fraud committed by an employee of the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), New Delhi in procurement of various items from the Kendriya Bhandar, R.K.Puram, New Delhi came to light in September 2004. It was found that an employee of NPL had been placing fake purchase order with Kendriya Bhandar. The supplies against such orders never reached the Central Stores at NPL. This came to notice when Kendriya Bhandar raised a bill of approximately Rs. 31.90 lakhs against supplies, of which no entry was found made either in the daily receipt register or the corresponding stock ledgers.

(c) Since the employee concerned appeared to be prima facie involved, the case was handed over to CBI for investigation. Concerned employee of NPL has been placed under suspension w.e.f. 22.9.2004. The office has also written to the CBI seeking its advice on whether simultaneous disciplinary action can be initiated against the concerned employee or to await the outcome of CBI's investigation

(d) A Stores & Purchase Officer has been posted to exclusively look after the work of the Central Stores and he has been instructed to carry out periodical Stores verification on a regular basis so that such irregularities do not recur in future.